

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Prior to further examination, please cancel claims 13, 14, 21, and 22 without prejudice to their subsequent reintroduction into this application or their introduction into a continuation application, and amend claims 1, 20, and 23 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of treating a sebaceous follicle disorder in a preselected dermal region of mammalian skin, the preselected dermal region having at least one lesion characteristic of the disorder disposed therein, the method comprising the steps of:
 - (a) cooling an area of the skin above the preselected dermal region; and
 - (b) applying energy to the preselected dermal region, in the absence of an exogenously provided energy absorbing material, in an amount sufficient to ameliorate the lesion while keeping the temperature of the area of the skin above the preselected dermal region below about 60°C before, during, or before and during the application of the energy.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein in step (b) the energy is provided by laser light, incoherent light, microwaves, ultrasound or RF current.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein in step (b) the energy is provided by laser light.
4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the laser light comprises a wavelength in the range from about 0.6 microns to about 1.8 microns.
5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the wavelength is in the range from about 1.2 to about 1.7 microns.
6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the wavelength is in the range from about 1.3 to about 1.6 microns.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the wavelength is about 1.5 microns.

~~8~~⁹ (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the laser light comprises a fluence in the range from about 5 to about 500 joules per square centimeter.

~~9~~⁸ (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the fluence is in the range from about 10 to about 150 joules per square centimeter.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the laser light comprises a power density in the range from about 1 to about 10,000 watts per square centimeter.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein step (a) occurs prior to step (b).

12. (Original) The method of claim 1 or 11, wherein step (a) occurs contemporaneously with step (b).

~~13~~¹³ 13. (Cancelled).

~~14~~¹³ 14. (Cancelled).

~~15~~¹³ 15. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the disorder is acne.

~~16~~¹³ 16. (Original) The method of claim 1¹³5, wherein the acne is acne vulgaris.

~~17~~¹³ 17. (Original) The method of claim 1 or 1¹³5, wherein applying energy in step (b) reduces the size of a lesion disposed within the preselected region.

~~18~~¹³ 18. (Original) The method of claim 1 or 1¹³5, wherein applying energy in step (b) reduces the density of lesions disposed within the preselected region.

~~19~~¹³ 19. (Original) The method of claim 1 or 1¹³5, wherein applying energy in step (b) reduces lesion-associated skin inflammation in the preselected region.

B

¹⁸20. (Currently Amended) A method of treating acne in a preselected dermal region of mammalian skin, the preselected dermal region having at least one acne lesion disposed therein, the method comprising the steps of:

- (a) cooling an area of the skin above the preselected dermal region; and
- (b) exposing the preselected dermal region to a beam of radiation comprising a wavelength in the range from ~~about 0.6~~ 1.3 microns to ~~about 1.8~~ 1.6 microns to ameliorate the lesion while keeping the temperature of the area of the skin above the preselected dermal region below about 60°C before, during, or before and during the exposure to the beam of radiation.

²¹21. (Cancelled).

²²22. (Cancelled).

¹⁹23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~22~~ ¹⁸20, wherein the wavelength is about 1.5 microns.

²⁰24. (Original) The method of claim ~~20~~ ¹⁸20, wherein in step (b) the beam of radiation has a fluence in the range from about 5 to about 500 joules per square centimeter.

²¹25. (Original) The method of claim ~~24~~ ²⁰24, wherein the fluence is in the range from about 10 to about 150 joules per square centimeter.

²²26. (Original) The method of claim ~~20~~ ¹⁸20, wherein in step (b) the beam of radiation has a power density in the range from about 1 to about 10,000 watts per square centimeter.

²³27. (Original) The method of claim ~~26~~ ²⁰20, wherein the power density is in the range from about 5 to about 5,000 watts per square centimeter.

²⁴28. (Original) The method of claim ~~20~~ ¹⁸20, wherein step (a) occurs prior to step (b).

²⁵29. (Original) The method of claim ~~20~~ ¹⁸20 or ~~28~~ ²⁴24, wherein step (a) occurs contemporaneously with step (b).

²¹30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim ¹⁸20, comprising the additional step of prior to step (b) providing a radiation absorbing material to the preselected dermal region.

²¹31. (Original) The method of claim ¹⁸20, wherein the disorder is acne vulgaris.

²⁰32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim ¹⁸20, wherein applying energy in step (b) reduces the size of a lesion disposed with the preselected dermal region.

¹⁸33. (Original) The method of claim ¹⁸20 or ²⁸32, wherein applying energy in step (b) reduces the density of lesions disposed within the preselected region.

²⁰34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim ¹⁸20 or ²⁸32, wherein applying energy in step (b) reduces lesion-associated skin-inflammation in the preselected dermal region.
